

# Prevention and Wellness Trust

Ch. 224 of the Acts of 2012

## Prevention and Wellness Advisory Board

DPH Public Health Council Room

December 11, 2014

### Meeting Minutes

---

#### Board Members present:

Lori Cavanaugh  
Robert Bruce Cedar  
Catherine Hartman  
Sen. John Keenan

David Hemenway  
Stephenie Lemon  
MaryLynn Ostrowski  
Ashlie Brown

Heidi Porter  
Keith Durham  
Susan Servais

#### Board Members not present:

Paula Johnson  
Sen. James Welch  
Rebekah Gewirtz

Peter Holden  
Rep. Jeff Sanchez  
Karen Regan

Rep. Jen Bensen  
Karen Regan

#### DPH and EOHHS staff presenting:

Cheryl Bartlett,  
Commissioner DPH

Tom Land  
Carlene Pavlos

Ashlie Brown, Secretary  
EOHHS

---

Discussion of administrative changes and PWAB member engagement before meeting called to order:

#### Changes in the department

- Commissioner leaving Department
- Program Manager, Jessica Aguilera-Steinert is leaving – transitioning to the office of community health workers.
  - Posting that is not yet up for the Jessica's position. – will be up next week. The link will go out to PWAB as soon as it is up.
- Structural change – creating a leadership team that is working with Carlene—will include grantee and worksite wellness. Jenna, Laura, Susan, Tom Land and Laura Nasuti will be coming onto the team. Covers all key areas: grantee, communications and operations, e-referral, and evaluation.

#### Board engagement

- Take better advantage off all of the experience and expertise of board members.
- Reminder of statutory responsibilities, including:

- Give recommendations to Commissioner concerning allocation and administration of PWTF
- Establish evaluation criteria and provide evaluation report by January 31, 2017
- Advise and guide annual report
- Monitor expenditures
- Questions for PWAB member to consider:
  - What have been the activities, meetings, or presentations that you have found most engaging and why?
  - How could your skills be best used as a member of the PWAB?
  - Are there specific areas of the PWTF in which you feel you could participate and how?
  - Could you recommend improvements in how we are facilitating the PWAB meetings? Is the content helpful or would you like to see different content?
  - Are there ways in which our correspondence could be improved?
- David Hemenway
  - Advice and promote. Consider how to stream more funding. What would make it exciting to the legislature?
  - If we ran the world what are the 10 things we would do in this area? Get experts – what would they do with 5, 10, 20 million?
  - Where will we be when time comes for renewal? What would appeal to the legislature? Affect will be minimal given the limited amount of time for this first cycle.
  - Public health is under funded.
  - This is going to end quickly—what else can we evaluate/document besides some of the process and numbers—what is exciting? Are we going to do more of the same?
- Susan Sevaris
  - Renewal and sustainability. We have four meeting in 2015. There are 80 new legislators. There is a huge learning curve for these new members.
  - Make sure this money comes back.
  - Each meeting should invite Chair and Vice Chair of Ways and Means—we need to invite them and have one of the grantees there to talk.
  - Have Health Caucus Chairs at another meeting.
  - Invite new legislators.
  - Need to have an education role as Board members—meet and greet.
  - Play the education role and talking with connections and making sure that anyone who can have an impact does.
- Maddie Ribble
  - MPHA—get the story out on the local level that is what the legislators care about—getting the data and stories out to community and those leaders. Making sure the local community knows what is happening. Package the data and stories to local community leaders. Need a vision – where do we go in the future.
  - Role – recommend next steps. Do we think there is a role for more funding
  - Does this prove anything after four years?
  - Should we ask for a longer timeline.
  - Advocacy to try and turn vision into a reality.
  - Will we be able to engage insurance companies.
- Stephanie Lemon

- Big picture issues. It is hard for a board to help with the day to day when we meet quarterly hard to give productive input when we are hearing about after the fact—maybe structure a meeting with a challenge.
- Structure these meeting around posing a question. This a something we have to head with and who should we do this.
  - Make working groups.
  - What do you need help with?
- Have the person who has the expertise help with issues after the meeting.
- MaryLynn Ostrowski
  - Struggle to prove that prevention actually pays off.
  - Participate and got to know the people in the room was helpful.
  - Get attention from everyone – if we can tie this into keeping healthcare costs below 3.14% increase.
  - We need to tie this to maintaining healthcare cost increases

### **Meeting called to order at 1:45**

- Introductions of new and ongoing members.
- Review of packets and minutes.
- **Motion to approve minutes motion by Lynn Ostranski and second by Keith Denham—unanimous.**
- Commissioner extending her appreciation for this work and thanks all for their work and commitment to public health.

### **Review of the legislative report**

- Review of the statutes and how the PWAB is involved.
- Review report section by section.
- Must be approved and sent to the legislature by January 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **REPORT EDIT SUGGESTIONS:**

- BACKGROUND:
  - More context.
  - Move extended care into the community—first bullet before sustainability—what are we doing and how are we describing it?
- GRANTEE PROGRAMS:
  - Need to catch attention—move data from the back (disparities) toward the top—maybe in the executive summary.
  - Data needs reference to the state averages.
  - Page 10—“only” 5 of 9—need to reword because it seems like you are not going to get results—talk about the extent of the size of those 5 communities—do not need to single out the number.
  - What are we doing what are trying to accomplish. The background was very clear but need some framework and broader context.
  - Moving extending care to come before sustainability.

- Lots of national interest and this project is based on extensive evidence base that we have not presented—appendices—maybe include toolkits.
- Are we there yet? Are we on track? Highlight in the executive summary.
- Data sharing—HIPPA requirements and discussions with data sharing should be included.
- Worksite Wellness falls flat—not well thought through—not impactful or strategic.
  - Tom Land—should we talk about how it aligns with PWTF?
  - No real substance in terms of community connection and how it is imbedded.
  - Carlene—tax credit could be in a later part (Cheryl--since this is not part of 224)
  - Lynn—This is where you can use the evidence from health plans
  - Eat 2 or 3 meals a day at work—lots of ways to connect—need comprehensive employer programs.
- **GENERAL COMMENTS**
  - Some comments do not have credits.
  - Introductory framing and how is it going right up front.
  - Importance of the executive summary—page two is where the appendices start.
  - Highlight innovation but data driven—community, selection of grantees, interventions.
  - Stay at very high level—do not need population numbers or details.
  - It is very readable and understandable.
  - It is exciting that it is both innovative and tremendously data driven.

**Motion by Lori to accept as amended, second by Susan—unanimous**

#### **Evaluation Overview—Tom Land**

- How do we deal with incomplete and contradictory information to demonstrate effectiveness.
- Sustainability challenges.
- QI vs evaluation data.
- Trying to make sure the funding keeps them sitting in the same room for a long time.
- Gaps in who delivers, who will benefit, and cost effectiveness

#### **External Evaluation**

- Request to PWAB to join review process.

PWTF will be sending out a Questionnaire about board engagement and continue the conversation in the future.

**Motion by Bruce to adjourn, seconded by Susan Sevaris.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jenna Roberts